

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL ON AGING

NOVEMBER 17, 2015

STATE COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	Barry Lamont, Helen Spencer, , Aruna Bhuta, Carl Bender, Cheryl Townsend Winter, Diane Snell, Javier Figueroa, Ron Vivion, Patricia McIntyre. Courtney Jaren, Paul Malinski, Marty Johnston, Peggi Moxley
Members Absent:	Sen .Karen Keiser, Joanne Levine, Rep. Sherry Appleton, Rep. Linda Kochmar, Phillip Lemley, Marilyn Vogler, Suzanne Holmes
Guests:	Walt Bowen, Cathy Knight
ALTSA Staff:	Rosemary Biggins, Bea Rector

ACTION ITEMS LIST	WHO	DEADLINE/DUE DATE
Meeting Date: November 17, 2015		
1. Ron Vivion will update the WASCOA 2016 Legislative priorities based on today's discussion and distribute to members	Ron	Next two weeks
2. Helen Spencer will contact Nancy Hooyman re: Interdisciplinary perspective	Helen	By January meeting
3. Council members informed about photo op with Governor	All	February 25 th 2016
4. Council needs to appoint a member to work with Cathy Knight on the October 2016 Joint Conference	All	TBD
5. Send Council members RFP information re: Long Term Services Financing Study	Rosemary	When made available
6. Resend information on Hawaii LTC Financing Study	Rosemary	Done
7. Council to decide if representative should be appointed to coalition associated with #5 above	All	Future meeting
8. PA&E Committee will draft initial definitions of "monitor" and "support" for Council review	PA& E Committee	TBD
9. Develop an educational PowerPoint about guardianship	PA & E	By January meeting
10. PA & E Forward Dementia Presentation to Executive Committee for review & approval	PA& E Committee	January meeting

Welcome, Remarks, and Introductions

Barry Lamont, Chairperson welcomed new member Marty Johnston who is representing the planning service area of Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern WA (Counties of Ferry, Steven, Pend Oreille, Lincoln, Spokane, Adams and Whitman). Marty shared she has a PhD in nursing. Examples of some of her work include a focus on development of programs for chronic disease, developing services outside the home and teaching healthcare administration.

The agenda was adapted to accommodate change in arrival times and a presentation cancellation. Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. Action items were reviewed. Barry encouraged members who hadn't yet contacted their congressional representatives about funding and reauthorization of the Older Americans Act and other federal legislation supported by the Council, please do so.

Council Focus Areas

Guardianship

Peggi Moxley volunteered to be the Council representative to the WINGS advisory group. Peggi shared her opinion that the Office of Public Guardian (OPG) contributes to cost savings because the services can keep people out of long term care facilities when preferred by the individual. She recommends the Council support OPG because there is a huge need

CFCO

Aruna Bhuta provided an update on CFCO in area of skill acquisition.

Elder Justice

Helen Spencer discussed interdisciplinary model as relates to elder justice issues and tribal court system. She also shared that she wants to contact Nancy Hooyman about the interdisciplinary approach to elder justice.

State Alzheimer's Plan

Cheryl Townsend Winter provided an update about the State Alzheimer's Plan. The plan has been finalized and has moved to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) for further review. Currently the workgroup is planning for a February kick-off. She will let members know as more information becomes available. There is a resolution being considered to present to the legislature to ask them to accept the plan and to also thank the individuals who worked to develop the plan. The resolution does not contain a budget component because the initial items in the plan are no cost. Javier

Figueroa commented that he shared information about plan development with the University Place City Council

Ron Vivion discussed the Health Innovation Leadership Network (HILN) and shared there is work being done on identifying on going behavioral health outcome performance standards; (deadline for comment is first week of December). When they are finalized he will share with the Council.

Council Committee Assignments

Barry and members reviewed committee assignments. Current assignments are:

Research & Collaboration

Aruna Bhuta, Patricia McIntyre, Suzanne Holmes (Chair), Joanne Levine, Marilyn Vogler, Peggi Moxley, Marty Johnstone

Public Awareness and Education

Carl Bender (Co-Chair), Cheryl Townsend Winter (Co-Chair), Helen Spencer, Courtney Jaren, Paul Malinski

Legislative

Ron Vivion (Chair), Diane Snell, Phillip Lemley, Javier Figueroa (Paul Malinski and Helen Spencer are willing to provide additional support to this committee as requested)

Executive

Barry Lamont, Cheryl Townsend Winter, Suzanne Holmes and Committee Chairs

Partner Updates

Senior Lobby Update – Walt Bowen

Legislative session starts on January 11th. Post recent election the composition of the State House of Representatives is 50-48. The Republican Party picked up one seat.

Initiative 1366 passed

A photo opportunity with the Governor is scheduled Feb 25th at 9:25am. Council members need to be seated as a group by 9:00am.

There was a meeting with United Way about their planned change in funding (cutting funds to senior focused programs). At this time there is not a clear indication of what the outcome the meeting will be.

The state Pharmacy Board and Nurses Association want to become members of Senior Lobby.

The Joint Legislative Executive Committee on Aging and Disability (JLEC-ADS) now includes the State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program and Disability Rights Washington.

W4A Update –Cathy Knight

Cathy distributed materials developed based on the outcome of activities at the October joint meeting, including deciding priority advocacy goals and strategies. She also distributed draft legislative priorities for W4A

Cathy discussed planning process for the October 2016 joint meeting

Cheryl requested that Council appoint a different member to volunteer to work with Cathy on planning for the 2016 WASCOA-W4A Conference. (Cheryl was Council lead for the planning process for both the 2014 and 2015 meeting)

Cathy and members discussed different perspectives on the recent Wall Street Journal article about guardianship and financial exploitation that featured a resident of Washington.

Legislative Priorities Discussion- Ron Vivion

Members have participated in discussion about legislative priorities in previous meetings. The purpose of today's discussion is to finalize them. Members participated in additional discussion about Health Homes and agreed it should be supported as a 2016 priority

Discussion ensued about the long term care financing study that has been directed by the legislature; the Council will continue to monitor the related process. Cathy suggested that members consider meeting with the consultants who will be working on this project. The Council also discussed need to further clarify how we are defining 'monitoring' and 'supporting'. As a result the Public Awareness & Education Committee will draft initial definitions for Council review.

Ron suggested also supporting reinstating Medicaid funded hearing and vision assisted devices. This is something that AARP is also supporting.

JLEC ADS support was discussed and Walt shared that funding is taken care of for 2016 but there will be need for support in 2017.

Based on collective meeting discussions, Ron motioned that the Council support the legislative priorities as discussed. Vote for approval was unanimous. Ron will distribute final version to members via email prior to the next meeting.

Note: during discussion about legislative priorities Aruna inquired about the difference between Health Home model and the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). Bea Rector provided additional clarification.

ALTSA Update –Bea Rector

As members know, it's a busy time in state government

Currently ALTSA has 3 major projects

Individual ProviderOne (IPOne) -the individual provider component of the comprehensive payroll system is being finalized for implementation. IPOne will replace the Social Service Payment System (SSPS). Outreach and training is currently being conducted. The system includes three ways to report time worked: by smart phone, online by computer or by using a paper timesheet process. It's tentatively slated for implementation in January

Payment of overtime---as you know the federal labor law ruling requires we adapt how we pay overtime; this is being addressed through collective bargaining. In our state the client controls the assignment of hours. We are moving from monthly to weekly plans of care as one component to address quality of care and budget impact; workers will work hours to weekly plan. IP will also be paid for travel time from worksite to worksite-(not applicable to IP who lives with client). We are continuing to work on addressing the overall impact of this change in the law, there are still legal questions. We're asking the legislature to include increase overtime funding in the supplemental budget

Aruna asked about the impact on case managers in moving to weekly plan--- initially it won't affect them

Overtime payment will start in April 2016 to allow for new payment system to be implemented and not further complicate implementation.

This has and continues to be a huge body of work with significant impact on clients, workers and staff.

1115 waiver The LTSS component of the waiver introduces additional benefits (pre Medicaid) and delinks nursing home eligibility. (Members have previously received executive summary of the 1115 waiver plan and the link to the related website) Part of approach is to serve unpaid family

caregivers/ people at risk of spend down so they can be served in home. The waiver will allow us to test if we can serve people for less cost with family caregiver services.

We have engaged in some informal discussions with CMS about the importance of further reform to waiver implementation. CMS is discussing and is expected to get back to the State in December.

Bea requests State Council involvement in the 1115 waiver development and implementation process. (ALTSA will resend related information to members)

ALTSA continues to prepare for legislative session- Council members are aware of the decision packages (DP's) that ALTSA has submitted. We won't know what may move forward until December

A quick update on Health Homes was provided- there is early data that supports funding it/ CMS is not comfortable sharing savings yet-but should more definitive information in December.

ALTSA shares Council concerns about guardianship-we agree this is significant issue

Bea and members discussed the status of the Alzheimer's state plan and how it's critically important for the health care system to have early identification in addition to a responsive Long Term Support System inclusive of family caregiver support. We need the Department of Health and Health Care Authority to engage the medical side more to take the lead to promote early screening and diagnosis. Members also discussed the need for the medical side to be aware of the network of community based supports and the need to reduce fear and stigma

Barry commented that in general we should also do some public education to help people understand the importance of planning in advance, instead of waiting to last minute to try to access services.

Cathy added the LTC financing study includes components related to advance planning.

Barry conveyed that the Council will need to look at outcome of DP process and incorporate into 2016 priorities accordingly. The overtime is a critical issue.

Ron asked about the status of the 1115 CMS approval process. Bea talked about the submission process and extensive comments received from stakeholders. This is a scenario where CMS needs to wrestle with some of the larger policy issues; the largest being is it budget neutral? We haven't had an 1115 in the past so important that the state that has run a very efficient system isn't penalized a result. If CMS approves it will be setting a precedent by allowing the state to target a set of services to a distinct population. We are also trying to convey that person could get 1115 services and later decide to go on to a 1915c waiver. CMS is still much focused on rebalancing

(states that still have 80% of people served in nursing homes). Our state needs its next evolution and we hope CMS will support the underlying policy goals to best serve people.

Other Updates and Member Comments

Dianne Snell discussed her experience over the years as a kinship caregiver and how the Kinship Caregiver program started and evolved over the years. Aruna commented on the benefit of extended family involvement and Barry talked about the popularity of the Kinship Caregiver Program. *(Note: the presentation for Kinship Caregiver Program was cancelled due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled for a later date)*

Barry reminded members that Senior Lobby has expansive proposed legislation monitoring capabilities and information about legislative session and bills can be located at their website <http://www.waseniobby.org/legislative-bills/>

Follow up from previous meetings

The Public Awareness and Education Committee has developed & approved a Power Point about dementia which includes slides about the State Alzheimer's Plan. This presentation will be forwarded to EC for their approval in early January, then on to Rosemary for final approval before posting to the WASCOA website

Courtney Jaren & Helen Spencer are developing a PowerPoint about guardianship

New Business

Mission Statement: Barry discussed the need to revisit the Council mission statement and determine if it needs to be updated.-The PA & E Committee will tackle the mission statement and also consider the definitions for support and monitoring discussed earlier.

WASCOA & State Seal- Rosemary discussed how the State Council use of state seal is limited to official Council documents. She will have further discussion with PA & E Committee to determine if there should be any changes made to existing practice.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM